

University of Rhode Island

DigitalCommons@URI

Faculty Senate Committee Reports and
Appendices

Faculty Senate

3-26-2015

Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes March 26, 2015

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts

Recommended Citation

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Joint Committee on Academic Planning Minutes March 26, 2015" (2015). *Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices*. Paper 267.
https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/267https://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_comrpts/267

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Committee Reports and Appendices by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.

Joint Committee on Academic Planning (JCAP)
Thursday, March 26, 2015

3:00 – 6:00 PM, President’s Conference Room, Green Hall

Minutes

Attendance: Provost Don DeHayes, *Chairperson*, Marilyn Barbour, Susan Trostle Brand, Joseph Maynard, Ann Morrissey, Kat Quina, Damon Rarick, Gerald Sonnenfeld, Mary Sullivan, Amanda Rode, Devon Swanson, Linda Welters and Nasser Zawia.

Members Absent: Joëlle Rollo Koster, *Vice Chairperson*, Laura Beauvais, Michael Cerbo, James Kinnie, Mary Jo Gonzales, Naomi Thompson

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM. Minutes from the February 26, 2015 meeting were approved.

2. Announcements

- a. The Provost provided a brief update on the governor’s budget.
- b. The Provost informed the Committee that the State will be moving towards a performance funding model for higher education. The University’s position is to ensure that we are part of the conversation in shaping the model and metrics that would emerge.

3. Ongoing Business

The Committee discussed the notes from the Academic Summit and the potential ideas for the future academic plan. At the February JCAP meeting, the Committee had focused on strategies to include as part of Goal 1, enhancing academic quality and student success. The discussion today would focus on the other strategies for the other potential goals.

1. Goal 1: Consider the following strategy for inclusion (relative to improving learning and student success).

APRC should ensure that program review be aligned with Academic strategic priorities and themes

2. Goal 2: Advance research, engage students, and support the scholarship of teaching and learning

Involve students in rich and varied opportunities for student (applied) research and scholarship

Reinvent and reinvigorate the existing research funding program and make it available to all academic disciplines in the institution

Incentivize, educate, and stimulate faculty engagement with students by supporting a faculty member's research to incorporate vertical team models where graduate and undergraduates are involved in peer teaching and roles relating to the research project

Incentivize faculty to work with students in summer grants program, perhaps on interdisciplinary

Grow funding for the SURF program to expand fellowships

Promote students' engagement in research and scholarly activity

Create opportunities for students to visualize and experience potential research opportunities – presentations to classmates, video, experiential lab experiences, simulations, open houses, introductory / orientation programs to students and research

Website and other promotions for student research opportunities at URI –
Using the experiential model?
Mentorship through advisors

Develop practices/processes/systems that ensure sharing of faculty research endeavors

Ensure public support and appreciation for the research mission – and funding

Significantly grow research opportunities with the State, nation, and world

Build strong identified partnerships with businesses and entities within State and beyond that capitalize on URI's strengths in 4 strategic areas: Health, Science and technology, Business and Green Economy, Liberal Learning

Faculty research – can we do more about enhancing the University's connections and relationship and engage the expertise of the university with government and private agencies. What opportunities would support faculty work across a whole array of disciplines and would benefit our expertise?

Build partnerships with other universities – i.e. involvement with European union to access funds that would involve collaboration

Streamline the research processes?

Enhance the University's capability in big data (tool)

Build connections across disciplines and academic units to foster interdisciplinary and inquiry based knowledge

Multiple forms in which it would be expressed are valued and accepted at all levels within the university

Educate faculty about endorsing the value interdisciplinary teaching and research

Recognition in the tenure and promotion process
Examine open access and the digital commons and future coordination and education

Introduce the STEAM language versus STEM

Recognize sabbatical opportunities for interdisciplinary endeavors

Ensure an appropriate resource infrastructure to serve research and scholarship of faculty work

Coordinate resources, determine value of centralization/ decentralization that will best support the scholarly needs and interests of faculty and the University and that will also bring researchers together to advance important work

Explore the optimal model for the human resources for centralization/ decentralization and coordination to advance research and scholarship of faculty

3. Goal: Advancing a Global University

The committee agreed the Global Steering Committee is the appropriate body to articulate goals and strategies for submission to JCAP for the Academic Plan. Ann will communicate these expectations to co-chairs Nancy Stricklin and Norbert Hedderich.

4.Goal for Diversity and Equity

Keep the current statement of the AA plan about eliminating bias, etc., or develop a goal statement that is bold

Reflect an enlightened community that eliminates prejudice, realizes a vibrant rich diverse community that embraces and celebrates difference

Develop robust plans for diversifying faculty by employing new and novel approaches that realize and retain greater numbers of faculty of color (bring back the Bach players – invite faculty)

Continue to advance diversity of students and advance support for various types of students, including those with disabilities, of different races, sexual orientation, gender, nontraditional students, etc.

Institute the framework for MCC competencies developed by AA committee

Support faculty development in education and development relative to inclusive pedagogy, diverse learning styles

Ensure the inclusion of part-time faculty and all types of faculty in building community and realizing an intentional composition that comprises the university faculty body

Utilize the diversity enhancement fund to support faculty in MCC course development

Develop credit bearing or noncredit bearing seminars for graduate students and faculty

Develop undergraduate coursework that address MCC competencies (as defined by the Academic Affairs diversity task force and the undergraduate general education competency areas.

Establish greater understanding and develop structured efforts to realize greater equity and appreciation for difference in students (i.e. TD students, different majors, racial, etc.)

Develop structured opportunities for students to work jointly on common projects and goals

Create intentional opportunities for building a more inclusive and strong sense of community and equity through interactions between various groups of people, including different majors, types of students

Leverage the growing resources in CED to accomplish these goals)

Leverage the grand challenge courses and URI 101 to explore topics in diversity and brings students together

Ensure Safety and equity

Title IX

St affairs cross collaboration with academic affairs

4. The committee agreed that aspiring towards strategic excellence and innovation should be the primary focus within each of the goals and it will need to ensure that is appropriately captured and reflected in the strategies within each goal.

- Capturing new pedagogy
- New applications of technology
- Constantly innovating as a university community
- Developing new programs or majors
- Shared services
- Particular collaborations
- Explore new models for teaching and learning and delivery of support services

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.